

SITUATION REPORT - EAST TIMOR

Eastern Zone Information Unit / 28 December 1986

1. In the 3rd week of December 1986 Falintil ambushed Indonesian soldiers stationed in the area of Bucoli-Baucau and killed a platoon.
2. A few days after the Bucoli-Baucau ambush Falintil attacked the enemy operating in the area of Viqueque and killed five Indonesian soldiers. The bodies were stripped of weapons, provisions and military uniforms.
3. At the end of December 1986 the following areas were attacked intensively by Falintil:
Western area: Mamalau-Ainaro, Zumalai, Atsabe and Ermera.
Central area: Kablake-Same, Natarbora, Alas, Luca and Ossu.
Eastern area: Ilomar-Los Palos and Matebian.
4. Aleixo, the head of the district of Maubisse, was arrested by Indonesian intelligence at the end of December 1986 for having spoken out against the Indonesian military behaviour towards civilians. He had been appointed head of the district by the Panglima Dading Kalbuardi in 1977 in appreciation of his cooperation with the Indonesian army during the invasion. Aleixo was then a member of the 'partisans' and helped Indonesian soldiers in the takeover of Maubisse and Ainaro.
5. A marathon meeting was held on 18.12.86 by CSIS (Centre for Strategic and International Studies) to discuss the situation of four Timorese students who had recently applied for political asylum at the Dutch Embassy in Jakarta in November 1986. The meeting discussed ways to stop the students leaving for Portugal by employing e.g. various forms of enticement, false promises, briberies and mental terror.
6. A four-hour meeting (11.00-3.00) was held on 19.12.86 by LAKSUSDA members of the Security Forces with leaders of the Catholic University of Atma Jaya regarding the students. But there were strong differences of opinion with the University leaders rejecting LAKSUSDA's request to persuade the students to give up the idea of leaving Indonesia.
7. The students appeal to all concerned international NGOs to put pressure on the Portuguese and Dutch Governments to hasten the case.

SITUATION REPORT - EAST TIMOR

Eastern Zone Information Unit / 7 January 1987

1. On 25.12.86 a member of the TBO (Tenaga Bantuan Operasi) was forced by Indonesian soldiers to destroy the grotto of Our Lady in Comoro in the Western suburbs of Dili. The TBO, afraid of being caught by the local people, didn't complete the task; he broke only one hand of the statue and removed the rosary beads. People in Dili reacted very angrily and requested the Church to protest to the puppet government in Dili.
2. Following the successful Falintil ambush on 2.12.86 in Ilomar-Los Palos, Indonesian soldiers arrested several local civilians and killed those who were suspected before the event took place.

Situation report (cont.)

3. The head of the district of Los Palos was also arrested on suspicion and is in Dili for interrogation by Indonesian intelligence.
4. There have been intensive and regular clashes between Falintil and Indonesian soldiers around the area of Viqueque, Los Palos Suai since Christmas 1986.
5. The student asylum seekers in Jakarta have been invited several times by 3 members of the military intelligence on 18.12.86 and 29.12.86 to visit several places of prostitution but the students have refused. Also they have been the target of several death threats over the phone and consequently fear for their lives.

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EAST TIMOR

CANBERRA TIMES 10.11.86

Indonesian manhunt for Fretilin leader

From JILL JOLLIFFE

LISBON, Sunday. — Documents smuggled to Portugal from East Timor say that the Indonesian Army has launched a new manhunt to capture guerilla leader Jose Gusmao Sha Na Na. The offensive has been accompanied by a wave of arrests and by the bombing of areas in the mountainous interior, according to the documents.

The documents were written in late August and early September and arrived in Lisbon recently, addressed to overseas representatives of the Fretilin resistance movement.

They said that Indonesia had increased

dramatically its troop strength in the former Portuguese colony, using "12 battalions in pursuit of Commander-in-Chief ... Sha Na Na Gusmao".

The reports said that the main part of these forces was in the eastern zone of the territory and that their advance was being supported by aerial bombardment. Since July, able-bodied East Timorese in the Lospalos and Viqueque areas had been drafted to assist in the offensive.

They said there was also a build-up of Indonesian regular troops in central East Timor, around Soibada and Barique, backed by heavy artillery. The writers, who described themselves as "comrades of the resistance in

the capital", said Indonesian soldiers were moving into difficult mountain areas, leaving East Timorese militiamen to take care of security in village centres — a reversal of previous policy.

Security around the capital Dili, had been reinforced, soldiers building bunkers at Tibar, a few kilometres west, although information from both Timorese and Indonesian sources in recent times has agreed that life in the capital has been normalised.

The picture of a tightening net forcing the guerilla leaders to take evasive action was underlined in the documents by the mention of the deaths of two local Fretilin commanders since the offensive began.